## PUBLIC MATTER

APR 19 2013
STATE BAR COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE
LOS ANGELES

#### STATE BAR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

#### **HEARING DEPARTMENT – LOS ANGELES**

In the Matter of	) Case Nos.: <b>09-N-15799-RAH</b> ; <b>09-O-17342</b>
PAUL JOHN MAJORS,	) (Cons.)
Member No. 153641,	) DECISION AND ORDER SEALING ) CERTAIN DOCUMENTS
A Member of the State Bar.	)

## Introduction<sup>1</sup>

In this original disciplinary proceeding, respondent Paul John Majors was accepted for participation in the State Bar Court's Alternative Discipline Program (ADP). As the court has now found that respondent has successfully completed the ADP, the court will recommend to the Supreme Court that respondent be suspended from the practice of law in California for three years, that execution of that period of suspension be stayed, and that he be placed on probation for three years subject to certain conditions, including a 14-month period of actual suspension (with credit given for the period of inactive enrollment under section 6233).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, all references to rules refer to the State Bar Rules of Professional Conduct. Furthermore, all statutory references are to the Business and Professions Code, unless otherwise indicated.



#### **Significant Procedural History**

The State Bar of California, Office of the Chief Trial Counsel (State Bar) filed an Amended Notice of Disciplinary Charges (NDC) against respondent on January 7, 2010, in case No. 09-N-15799. A pre-notice stipulation (case No. 09-O-17342) was filed with the court on June 1, 2010, and later consolidated with the first matter.

Respondent requested referral for evaluation of his eligibility for participation in the State Bar Court's ADP. Respondent then contacted the State Bar's Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) to assist him with his mental health issues.

On May 3, 2010, respondent submitted a declaration which established a nexus between respondent's mental health issues and his misconduct in this matter.

The State Bar and respondent entered into a Stipulation Re Facts and Conclusions of Law (Stipulation). The Stipulation, filed January 13, 2011, sets forth the factual findings, legal conclusion, and mitigating and aggravating circumstances in this matter.

The court issued a Confidential Statement of Alternative Dispositions and Orders, formally advising the parties of: (1) the discipline which would be recommended to the Supreme Court if respondent successfully completed the ADP; and (2) the discipline which would be recommended if respondent failed to successfully complete, or was terminated from, the ADP. Agreeing to those alternative possible dispositions, respondent executed the Contract and Waiver for Participation in the State Bar Court's ADP; the court accepted respondent for participation in the ADP; and respondent's period of participation in the ADP began on January 13, 2011.

Respondent was placed on inactive enrollment effective November 1, 2010, and was returned to active status on October 16, 2012.

Respondent thereafter participated successfully in both the LAP and the State Bar Court's ADP. After receiving a Certificate of One Year of Participation in the Lawyer Assistance

Program - Mental Health, the court found that respondent has successfully completed the ADP at a status conference on November 16, 2012.

This matter was submitted for decision upon receipt of respondent's ADP Graduation Checklist on January 31, 2013.

#### Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law

#### **Culpability Findings**

The parties' Stipulation, including the court's order approving the Stipulation, is attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, as if fully set forth herein.

Respondent stipulated to willfully violating: (1) rule 3-110(A) by failing to perform services competently; (2) section 6068, subdivision (m), by failing to communicate with client; (3) section 6103 by failing to obey court orders and by failing to comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20; (4) rule 3-700(A)(2) by improperly withdrawing from employment; and (5) rule 3-700(D)(2) by failing to return unearned fees.

During respondent's participation in the ADP, he has made full restitution to Jonathan Mott and Chizuko Takahama; he completed Ethics School on August 23, 2012; he took and passed the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam on November 23, 2011; and he filed a California Rules of Court, rule 9.20 compliance declaration on January 13, 2011.

## Aggravation<sup>2</sup>

### Prior Record of Discipline (Std. 1.2(b)(i).)

Respondent has two prior records of discipline.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All further references to standards (Std.) are to the Rules of Procedure of the State Bar, title IV, Standards for Attorney Sanctions for Professional Misconduct.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The court takes judicial notice of the pertinent State Bar Court records regarding this prior discipline, admits them into evidence and directs the Clerk to include copies in the record of this case.

- 1. On September 11, 2007, the California Supreme Court filed an order that suspended respondent from the practice of law for one year, stayed, and placed him on probation for two years. Respondent stipulated to culpability of failing to perform services competently and failing to cooperate in a disciplinary investigation in one client matter. (Supreme Court case No. S154373; State Bar Court case No. 05-O-04608.)
- 2. On May 8, 2009, because respondent violated his probation conditions, the California Supreme Court filed an order revoking respondent's probation and suspending him from the practice of law for two years, stayed, and placing him on probation for three years on condition that he be actually suspended for one year and until he makes restitution. (Supreme Court case No. S154373; State Bar Court case No. 08-PM-14213).

#### Harm to Client/Public/Administration of Justice (Std. 1.2(b)(iv).)

Respondent stipulated that he harmed the client in that he prevented the client from legal process and denied him the return of a significant sum of unearned fees.

#### Mitigation

#### Candor/Cooperation to State Bar (Std. 1.2(e)(v).)

Respondent displayed spontaneous cooperation and candor with the State Bar in its investigation and in these proceedings.

#### Other

In addition, it is appropriate to now consider respondent's successful completion of the ADP as a mitigating circumstance in this matter.

#### **Discussion**

The purpose of State Bar disciplinary proceedings is not to punish the attorney but, rather, to protect the public, preserve public confidence in the legal profession, and maintain the

highest possible professional standards for attorneys. (*Chadwick v. State Bar* (1989) 49 Cal.3d 103, 111.)

In determining the appropriate alternative discipline recommendations if respondent successfully completed the ADP or was terminated from, or failed to successfully complete, the ADP, the court considered the discipline recommended by the parties, as well as certain standards and case law. In particular, the court considered standards 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, and 2.6 and case law, including *In re Silverton* (2005) 36 Cal.4th 81 and *In re Morse* (1995) 11 Cal.4th 184.

Because respondent has now successfully completed the ADP, this court, in turn, now recommends to the Supreme Court the imposition of the lower level of discipline, set forth more fully below. Moreover, because he has made full restitution, completed Ethics School and MPRE, and filed a rule 9.20 compliance declaration, the court does not recommend that respondent need to comply with those requirements again.

#### Recommendations

It is hereby recommended that respondent Paul John Majors, State Bar Number 153641, be suspended from the practice of law in California for three years, that execution of that period of suspension be stayed, and that he be placed on probation<sup>4</sup> for a period of three years subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Respondent Paul John Majors is suspended from the practice of law for the first 14 months of probation (with credit given for inactive enrollment, which was effective November 1, 2010, through October 15, 2012 (Bus. & Prof. Code, §6233)).<sup>5</sup>
- 2. During the probation period, respondent must comply with the provisions of the State Bar Act and the Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of California.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The probation period will commence on the effective date of the Supreme Court order imposing discipline in this matter. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.18.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Respondent has made full restitution to Jonathan Mott and Chizuko Takahama.

3. Within 10 days of any change, respondent must report to the Membership Records Office of the State Bar and to the Office of Probation of the State Bar of California (Office of Probation), all changes of information, including current office address and telephone number, or other address for State Bar purposes, as prescribed by section 6002.1 of the Business and Professions Code.

- 4. Within 30 days after the effective date of discipline, respondent must contact the Office of Probation and schedule a meeting with respondent's assigned probation deputy to discuss these terms and conditions of probation. Upon the direction of the Office of Probation, respondent must meet with the probation deputy either in person or by telephone. During the period of probation, respondent must promptly meet with the probation deputy as directed and upon request.
- 5. Respondent must submit written quarterly reports to the Office of Probation on each January 10, April 10, July 10 and October 10 of the period of probation. Under penalty of perjury, respondent must state whether respondent has complied with the State Bar Act, the Rules of Professional Conduct, and all conditions of probation during the preceding calendar quarter. Respondent must also state whether there are any proceedings pending against him in the State Bar Court and if so, the case number and current status of that proceeding. If the first report would cover less than 30 days, that report must be submitted on the next quarter date, and cover the extended period.

In addition to all quarterly reports, a final report, containing the same information, is due no earlier than 20 days before the last day of the period of probation and no later than the last day of the probation period.

- 6. Subject to the assertion of applicable privileges, respondent must answer fully, promptly and truthfully any inquiries of the Office of Probation which are directed to respondent personally or in writing relating to whether respondent is complying or has complied with the probation conditions.
- 7. Respondent must comply with all provisions and conditions of his Participation Plan/Agreement with the Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) and must provide the Office of Probation with certification of completion of the LAP. Respondent must immediately report any non-compliance with any provision(s) or condition(s) of his Participation Plan/Agreement to the Office of Probation. Respondent must provide an appropriate waiver authorizing the LAP to provide the Office of Probation and this court with information regarding the terms and conditions of respondent's participation in the LAP and his compliance or non-compliance with LAP requirements. Revocation of the written waiver for release of LAP information is a violation of this condition. Respondent will be relieved of this condition upon providing to the Office of Probation satisfactory certification of completion of the LAP.
- 8. Respondent must comply with the following reporting requirements:
  - a. If respondent possesses client funds at any time during the period covered by a required quarterly report, respondent must file with each required report a certificate

from a certified public accountant or other financial professional approved by the Office of Probation certifying that:

- i. Respondent has maintained a bank account in a bank authorized to do business in the State of California, at a branch located within the State of California, and that such account is designated as a "Trust Account" or "Clients' Funds Account"; and
- ii. Respondent has complied with the "Trust Account Record Keeping Standards" as adopted by the Board of Governors pursuant to rule 4-100(C) of the Rules of Professional Conduct.
- b. If respondent does not possess any client funds, property or securities during the entire period covered by a report, respondent must so state under penalty of perjury in the report filed with the Office of Probation for that reporting period. In this circumstance, respondent need not file the certificate described above.

The requirements of this condition are in addition to those set forth in rule 4-100 of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

- 9. Within one year after the effective date of the discipline herein, respondent must submit to the Office of Probation satisfactory evidence of completion of the State Bar's Client Trust Accounting School and passage of the test given at the end of the session. This requirement is separate from any Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) requirement, and respondent will not receive MCLE credit for attending Client Trust Accounting School. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 3201.)
- 10. At the expiration of the period of probation, if Paul John Majors has complied with all conditions of probation, the three-year period of stayed suspension will be satisfied and that suspension will be terminated.

#### **Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination**

It is not recommended that Paul John Majors be ordered to take and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) because he had already done so in November 2011. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 9.10(b).)

#### California Rules of Court, Rule 9.20

It is not recommended that respondent be ordered to comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20 because he had complied on January 13, 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> It is not recommended that respondent attend Ethics School, as respondent attended and completed that course within the last two years. (Rules Proc. of State Bar, rule 5.135.)

Costs

It is recommended that costs be awarded to the State Bar in accordance with Business

and Professions Code section 6086.10, and are enforceable both as provided in Business and

Professions Code section 6140.7 and as a money judgment.

**Direction Re Decision and Order Sealing Certain Documents** 

The court directs a court case administrator to file this Decision and Order Sealing

Certain Documents. Thereafter, pursuant to rule 5.388(c) of the Rules of Procedure of the State

Bar of California (Rules of Procedure), all other documents not previously filed in this matter are

ordered sealed pursuant to rule 5.12 of the Rules of Procedure.

It is further ordered that protected and sealed material will only be disclosed to: (1)

parties to the proceeding and counsel; (2) personnel of the Supreme Court, the State Bar Court

and independent audiotape transcribers; and (3) personnel of the Office of Probation when

necessary for their official duties. Protected material will be marked and maintained by all

authorized individuals in a manner calculated to prevent improper disclosure. All persons to

whom protected material is disclosed will be given a copy of this order sealing the documents by

the person making the disclosure.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Judge of the State Bar Court

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# State Bar Court of California Hearing Department Los Angeles ALTERNATIVE DISCIPLINE PROGRAM

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ALTER	RNATIVE DISCIPLINE PROGR	AM
Counsel For The State Bar	Case Number (s) 09-O-17342;	(for Court's use)
Charles A. Murray	09-N-15799	
Deputy Trial Counsel		FILED
1149 South Hill Street		LIFED
Los Angeles, California 90015-2299		JAN 1 3 2011
213-765-1486	PUBLIC MATTER	
		STATE BAR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE
   Bar # 146069		LOS ANGELES
In Pro Per Respondent		
The rot to the political to		
Paul John Majors		
24782 Daphne W		
Mission Viejo, CA 92691		
(949) 837-2700	Out in the Brown Land	
	Submitted to: Program Jud	ige
Bar # 153641	STIPULATION RE FACTS	AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
In the Matter Of:	<u> </u>	
Paul John Majors		
·	☐ PREVIOUS STIPULATION	ON REJECTED
Bar # 153641		
A Manufacture of the Control of the		
A Member of the State Bar of California (Respondent)		
Note: All information required by this		formation which cannot be

Note: All information required by this form and any additional information which cannot be provided in the space provided, must be set forth in an attachment to this stipulation under specific headings, e.g., "Facts," "Dismissals," "Conclusions of Law," "Supporting Authority," etc.

## A. Parties' Acknowledgments:

- (1) Respondent is a member of the State Bar of California, admitted June 26, 1991.
- (2) The parties agree to be bound by the factual stipulations contained herein even if conclusions of law or disposition (to be attached separately) are rejected or changed by the Supreme Court. However, except as otherwise provided in rule 804.5(c) of the Rules of Procedure, if Respondent is not accepted into the Alternative Discipline Program, this stipulation will be rejected and will not be binding on the Respondent or the State Bar.
- (3) All investigations or proceedings listed by case number in the caption of this stipulation are entirely resolved by this stipulation and are deemed consolidated, except for Probation Revocation proceedings. Dismissed charge(s)/count(s) are listed under "Dismissals." The stipulation consists of 8 pages, excluding the order.
- (4) A statement of acts or omissions acknowledged by Respondent as cause or causes for discipline is included under "Facts."

(Do r	ot write	above	this line.)
(5)	Cor Law		ons of law, drawn from and specifically referring to the facts are also included under "Conclusions of
(6)	No pen	more ding i	than 30 days prior to the filing of this stipulation, Respondent has been advised in writing of any nvestigation/proceeding not resolved by this stipulation, except for criminal investigations.
(7)			of Disciplinary Costs—Respondent acknowledges the provisions of Bus. & Prof. Code §§6086.10 & nd will pay timely any disciplinary costs imposed in this proceeding.
[		essic	ing Circumstances [for definition, see Standards for Attorney Sanctions for onal Misconduct, standard 1.2(b)]. Facts supporting aggravating circumstances red.
(1)	$\boxtimes$	Prio	r record of discipline [see standard 1.2(f)] 2 priors. See Page 7.
	(a)		State Bar Court case # of prior case
	(b)		Date prior discipline effective
	(c)		Rules of Professional Conduct/ State Bar Act violations:
	(d)		Degree of prior discipline
	(e)		If Respondent has two or more incidents of prior discipline, use space provided below:
(2)		Dist	nonesty: Respondent's misconduct was surrounded by or followed by bad faith, dishonesty, cealment, overreaching or other violations of the State Bar Act or Rules of Professional Conduct.
(3)		to th	st Violation: Trust funds or property were involved and Respondent refused or was unable to account e client or person who was the object of the misconduct for improper conduct toward said funds or erry.
(4)	Ø	Res	m: Respondent's misconduct harmed significantly a client, the public or the administration of justice condent prevented the client from legal process and denied him the return of a significant of unearned fees.
(5)			fference: Respondent demonstrated indifference toward rectification of or atonement for the sequences of his or her misconduct.

Additional aggravating circumstances:

(6)

(7)

(8)

or demonstrates a pattern of misconduct.

■ No aggravating circumstances are involved.

**Lack of Cooperation:** Respondent displayed a lack of candor and cooperation to victims of his/her misconduct or to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation or proceedings.

Multiple/Pattern of Misconduct: Respondent's current misconduct evidences multiple acts of wrongdoing

		ating Circumstances [see standard 1.2(e)]. Facts supporting mitigating imstances are required.
(1)		<b>No Prior Discipline:</b> Respondent has no prior record of discipline over many years of practice coupled with present misconduct which is not deemed serious.
(2)		No Harm: Respondent did not harm the client or person who was the object of the misconduct.
(3)		Candor/Cooperation: Respondent displayed spontaneous candor and cooperation with the victime of his/her-miscenduct and to the State Bar during disciplinary investigation and proceedings.
(4)		<b>Remorse:</b> Respondent promptly took objective steps spontaneously demonstrating remorse and recognition of the wrongdoing, which steps were designed to timely atone for any consequences of his/her misconduct.
(5)		<b>Restitution:</b> Respondent paid \$ on in restitution to without the threat or force of disciplinary, civil or criminal proceedings.
(6)		<b>Delay:</b> These disciplinary proceedings were excessively delayed. The delay is not attributable to Respondent and the delay prejudiced him/her.
(7)		Good Faith: Respondent acted in good faith.
(8)		<b>Emotional/Physical Difficulties:</b> At the time of the stipulated act or acts of professional misconduct Respondent suffered extreme emotional difficulties or physical disabilities which expert testimony would establish was directly responsible for the misconduct. The difficulties or disabilities were not the product or any illegal conduct by the member, such as illegal drug or substance abuse, and Respondent no longer suffers from such difficulties or disabilities.
(9)		<b>Severe Financial Stress:</b> At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered from severe financial stres which resulted from circumstances not reasonably foreseeable or which were beyond his/her control and which were directly responsible for the misconduct.
(10)		<b>Family Problems:</b> At the time of the misconduct, Respondent suffered extreme difficulties in his/her personal life which were other than emotional or physical in nature.
(11)		Good Character: Respondent's good character is attested to by a wide range of references in the legal and general communities who are aware of the full extent of his/her misconduct.
(12)		<b>Rehabilitation:</b> Considerable time has passed since the acts of professional misconduct occurred followed by convincing proof of subsequent rehabilitation.
(13)		No mitigating circumstances are involved.
Δddi	tions	al mitigating circumetancee

#### **ATTACHMENT TO**

#### ADP STIPULATION RE FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

IN THE MATTER OF: PAUL JOHN MAJORS MEMBER # 153641

CASE NUMBER(s): **09-N-15799 & 09-O-17342** 

#### PENDING PROCEEDINGS

The disclosure date referred to on page one, paragraph A.(6), is May 17, 2010.

#### PARTIES ARE BOUND BY THE STIPULATED FACTS:

The parties intend to be and are hereby bound by the stipulated facts contained in this stipulation. This stipulation as to facts and the facts so stipulated shall independently survive even if the conclusions of law and/or stipulated disposition set forth herein are rejected or changed in any manner whatsoever by the Hearing Department or the Review Department of the State Bar Court, or by the California Supreme Court.

#### STIPULATION AS TO FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

Respondent admits that the following facts are true and that he is culpable of violations of the specified statues and/or Rules of Professional Conduct, or has otherwise committed acts of misconduct warranting discipline, as follows:

#### Facts for Case No. 09-N-15799

- 1. On May 8, 2009, the Supreme Court of the State of California filed a disciplinary order in case number S154373 (hereinafter, the "Order") based on State Bar Court case number 08-PM-14213.
- 2. The order included a requirement that Respondent comply with California Rules of Court, rule 9.20 ("rule 9.20") by performing the acts specified in subdivisions (a) and (c) of that rule within 30 and 40 days, respectively, of the effective date of the Order.
- 3. On May 8, 2009, the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of California properly served a copy of the Order on Respondent. Respondent received the Order.
- 4. The Order became effective on June 7, 2009, thirty days after it was filed, and at all times thereafter remained in full force and effect. Pursuant to the Order, Respondent was

RESPONDENT: MAJORS, PAUL JOHN (PROGRAM)

required to comply with subdivision (c) of rule 9.20 no later than July 17, 2009, by filing with the Clerk of the State Bar Court a declaration of compliance with subdivision (a) of rule 9.20.

- 5. Respondent did not file with the Clerk of the State Bar Court a declaration of compliance with rule 9.20 by July 17, 2009.
- 6. Respondent filed a declaration of compliance with rule 9.20 with the Clerk of the State Bar Court on October 16, 2009, contending that he had complied with the provisions of rule 9.20, three months after it was due.

#### Conclusions of Law for Case No. 09-N-15799

By failing to file a declaration of compliance with rule 9.20 with the State Bar Court by July 17, 2009, as required by the Supreme Court Order, and by not filing this declaration until October 16, 2009, Respondent willfully violated an order of the Supreme Court and the provisions of Business and Professions Code section 6103.

#### Facts for Case No. 09-O-17342

- 1. Chizuko Takahama ("Takahama") hired Respondent for legal representation in a special education case on behalf of a minor. Between September 7, 2007 and December 26, 2008, Takahama paid Respondent a total of \$13,500 in advanced fees,
- 2. Respondent failed to file the opening brief in the underlying case involving the minor against the Newport Mesa Unified School District with the US District Court.
- 3. On November 21, 2008, Respondent admitted in a declaration that he failed to file the opening brief. He added that at that time he was distracted by several criminal matters, and that he was also overwhelmed by clerical issues due to his no longer utilizing an office support staff.
- 4. The court gave Respondent until December 12, 2008 to file the opening brief.
- 5. Respondent failed to file the opening brief by December 12, 2008.
- 6. On December 12, 2008, Respondent was ordered to pay opposing counsel, Jonathan Mott ("Mott"), \$950 in sanctions for the costs of his having to appear on that date.
- 7. Respondent informed Mott that he would pay him, however he never paid him the sanctions ordered by the court.

RESPONDENT: MAJORS, PAUL JOHN	•	(PROGRAM)
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- 8. On December 23, 2008 [as the result of a separate matter] the State Bar filed an order placing Respondent on inactive status, effective December 26, 2008.
- 9. Respondent did not inform Takahama of the State Bar suspension or of his inability to continue his representation in the matter.
- 10. On February 9, 2009, the court issued an OSC re: dismissal of the case based on Respondent's failure to prosecute. A response was due by February 20, 2009.
- 11. Respondent failed to file a response to the OSC due by February 20, 2009.
- 12. On February 23, 2009, the case was dismissed for lack of prosecution.
- 13. Respondent never made a proper withdrawal from the case. Respondent abandoned the cause for which he was hired.
- 14. On April 17, 2009, May 23, 2009, and August 6, 2009 respectively, the client's new attorney, Gene Choe, ("Choe") sent letters to Respondent. In the letters, Choe requested a refund of the \$13,500 in advanced fees that Takahama paid to employ him.
- 15. Respondent failed to respond to Choe or refund any of the \$13,500 in fees paid by Takahama.

#### Conclusions of Law for Case No. 09-O-17342

- 16. By not filing the opening brief in the minor's underlying case in the US District Court by its original due date or by the extended date ordered by the court, Respondent intentionally, recklessly and repeatedly failed to perform legal services with competence, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-110(A).
- 17. By not informing the client of his suspension with the State Bar effective December 26, 2008 and of his inability to continue representing them, Respondent failed to keep a client reasonably informed of a significant development, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6068(m).
- 18. By not paying the court ordered sanctions to Mott, Respondent willfully disobeyed or violated an order of the court, in willful violation of Business and Professions Code, section 6103.
- 19. By not responding to the OSC or taking further action on behalf of the client which led to the dismissal of the case, Respondent improperly withdrew from employment in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(A)(2).

RESPONDENT: MAJORS, PAUL JOHN (PROGRAM)

20. By not refunding the \$13,500 to Takahama upon demand, Respondent failed to refund unearned fees, in willful violation of Rules of Professional Conduct, rule 3-700(D)(2).

#### AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

#### Prior Discipline.

Case No. 05-O-04608 (S154373): Effective October 11, 2007.

Violation: RPC rule 3-110(A); SBA section 6068(i)

Discipline: One (1) year suspension and until restitution, stayed. No actual suspension.

Two (2) years probation with conditions, MPRE within one (1) year and costs.

Case No. 08-PM-14213 (154373): Effective: June 7, 2009 to January 15, 2010.

Probation Violation: SBA section 6068(k)

Discipline: Probation revoked, two (2) years suspension stayed, one (1) year actual suspension with credit for inactive enrollment from 12/26/08 & until restitution paid. Three (3) years probation with conditions, rehabilitation if suspension two (2) years or more, Rule 9.20 and costs.

#### **RESTITUTION:**

Respondent shall pay attorney Jonathon Mott the principal sum of \$950 plus interest at the rate of 10% [ten percent] per annum from December 12, 2008, until paid.

Respondent shall pay Chizuko Takahama or the Client Security Fund, as appropriate, the principal sum of \$13,500 plus interest at the rate of 10% [ten percent] per annum from September 7, 2007, until paid.

RESPONDENT: MAJORS, PAUL JOHN

(PROGRAM)

(Do not write above this line.)		
In the Matter of	Case number(s):	
Paul John Majors	09-O-17342; 09-N-15799	
_		

#### SIGNATURE OF THE PARTIES

By their signatures below, the parties and their counsel, as applicable, signify their agreement with each of the recitations and each of the terms and conditions of this Stipulation Re Facts and Conclusions of Law.

Respondent enters into this stipulation as a condition of his/her participation in the Program. Respondent understands that he/she must abide by all terms and conditions of Respondent's Program Contract.

If the Respondent is not accepted into the Program or does not sign the Program contract, this Stipulation will be rejected and will not be binding on Respondent or the State Bar.

If the Respondent is accepted into the Program, this Stipulation will be filed and will become public. Upon Respondent's successful completion of or termination from the Program, the specified level of discipline for successful completion of or termination from the Program as set forth in the State Bar Court's Confidential Statement of Alternative Dispositions and Orders shall be imposed or recommended to the Supreme Court.

<u>G-37-10</u> Date	Respondent's Signature	Paul John Majors Print Name
Date / /	Respondent's Counsel Signature	Print Name
5/1/2010 Date	Deputy Trial Counsel's Signature	. Charles A. Murray, DTC Print Name
·		

(Do not write above this line.) In the Matter Of Paul John Majors		Case Number(s): 09-O-17342; 09-N-15799
	ORI	DER
	ERED that the requested dismissal of	d that it adequately protects the public, counts/charges, if any, is GRANTED without
团	The stipulation as to facts and conclu	sions of law is APPROVED.
	The stipulation as to facts and concluforth below.	sions of law is APPROVED AS MODIFIED as set
M	All court dates in the Hearing Departr	ment are vacated.
•		
stipulation, further mod in the Prog Procedure	filed within 15 days after service of the diffes the approved stipulation; or 3) Regram or does not sign the Program Core.)	oved unless: 1) a motion to withdraw or modify the is order, is granted; or 2) this court modifies or espondent is not accepted for participation ntract. (See rule 135(b) and 802(a), Rules of Judge of the State Bar Court

RICHARD A. HONN

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

[Rule 62(b), Rules Proc.; Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of Los Angeles, on January 14, 2011, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

## STIPULATION RE FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

in a sea	aled envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:
	by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:
	PAUL J. MAJORS 26361 VIA CORRIZO SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675
	by certified mail, No. , with return receipt requested, through the United States Postal Service at , California, addressed as follows:
	by overnight mail at , California, addressed as follows:
	by fax transmission, at fax number . No error was reported by the fax machine that I used.
	By personal service by leaving the documents in a sealed envelope or package clearly labeled to identify the attorney being served with a receptionist or a person having charge of the attorney's office, addressed as follows:
$\boxtimes$	by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:
	Charles A. Murray, Enforcement, Los Angeles
	by certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on ry 14, 2011.
	Cristina Potter
	Case Administrator

State Bar Court

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

[Rules Proc. of State Bar; Rule 5.27(B); Code Civ. Proc., § 1013a(4)]

I am a Case Administrator of the State Bar Court of California. I am over the age of eighteen and not a party to the within proceeding. Pursuant to standard court practice, in the City and County of Los Angeles, on April 19, 2013, I deposited a true copy of the following document(s):

DECISION AND ORDER SEALING CERTAIN DOCUMENTS and STIPULATION RE FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

in a sealed envelope for collection and mailing on that date as follows:

by first-class mail, with postage thereon fully prepaid, through the United States Postal Service at Los Angeles, California, addressed as follows:

PAUL J MAJORS ESQ 26361 VIA CORRIZO SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

by interoffice mail through a facility regularly maintained by the State Bar of California addressed as follows:

Adriana M. Burger Enforcement, Los Angeles

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed in Los Angeles, California, on April 19, 2013.

Julieta E. Gonzales

Case Administrator

State Bar Court